



220793

November 26, 3007

### **VIA U.P.S. OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**

Mr. Vernon Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board Section of Environmental Analysis 1925 "K" St., N.W., Room 504 Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Proposed Abandonment of the Huntsville Industrial Lead from M. P. 5.0 to M. P. 6.67 near Huntsville, Walker County, Texas; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X)

Dear Mr. Williams:

Pursuant to the Board's exemption procedures for abandonment of rail lines with no local business for at least two-years, (49-C.F.R. 1152.50), enclosed are an original and ten (10) copies of a verified Notice of Exemption, including a Certificate of Service and Publication.

Please file the Notice of Exemption in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X). Enclosed is a credit authorization voucher in the amount of \$3,200.00 for the filing fee. Three (3) computer disks, in Word format, are included for the Board's use.

Sincerely yours,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr

**Enclosures** 

O:\Abandonmetns\33-246X\STB-Not-Ltr.doc

### Before the

### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION -IN WALKER COUNTY TEXAS
(HUNTSVILLE INDUSTRIAL LEAD)

### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

### **UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY**

Mack H. Shumate, Jr., Senior General Attorney 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 777-2055 (312) 777-2065 FAX

Dated: November 26, 2007 Filed: November 26, 2007

### Before the

### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X)

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

- ABANDONMENT EXEMPTION IN WALKER COUNTY, TEXAS
(HUNTSVILLE INDUSTRIAL LEAD)

### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") submits this verified Notice of Exemption pursuant to 49 § C.F.R. 1152, Subpart F -- Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances of Service and Trackage Rights, for an exempt abandonment of the Huntsville Industrial Lead from Milepost 5.05 to Milepost 6.67 near Huntsville, a distance of 1.67 miles in Walker County, Texas (the "Line").

### Proposed Consummation Date: 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50 (d)(2)

The abandonment is proposed to be consummated on or after January 16, 2007 (at least 50 days after filing the Notice of Exemption).

### **Certification: 49 C.F.R. 1152,50(b)**

UP certifies that no local traffic has moved over the Line for at least two years; and that no formal complaint filed by a user of rail service on the Line (or filed by a state or local governmental entity acting on behalf of such user) regarding cessation of service over the Line either is pending with this Board or any U.S. District Court or has been decided in favor of the complainant within the two-year period. UP further certifies that there is no overhead traffic on the Line.

### Additional Information Required: 49 C.F.R. 1152.22(a)(1) (4), (7)-(8) and (e)(4)

- (a) General.
- (a)(1) The railroads' exact name is Union Pacific Railroad Company.
- (a)(2) UP is a common carrier by railroad subject to 49 U.S.C. Subtitle IV, Chapter 105.
- (a)(3) UP intends to abandon the Line from Milepost 5.0 to Milepost 6.67 near Huntsville, a distance of 1.67 miles. The Line is located in Walker County, Texas.
- (a)(4) A map showing the location of the Line in conjunction with other rail lines, highways and major roads in the area is attached hereto as **Exhibit A** and hereby made a part hereof.
- (a)(7) The representative to whom correspondence regarding this abandonment should be sent is:

Mack H. Shumate, Jr., Senior General Attorney Union Pacific Railroad Company 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 777-2055 (312) 777-2065 FAX

- (a)(8) ZIP Code. The Line traverses U. S. Postal Service Zip Codes 77340.
- (e)(4) Rural and Community Impact. The Line was originally constructed by the Huntsville Branch Railway in 1872. Most of the segment currently consists of 90-pound rail laid in 1951; the final third of a mile contains 75-pound rail laid in 1931.

After abandonment, the closest rail location would be UP at Townley, which lies just east on the portion of the Huntsville Industrial Lead not affected by the proposed abandonment. The right-of-way considered for abandonment totals 31.38

acres. 29.88 acres are non-reversionary and 1.5 acres are reversionary property. The right-of-way proposed for abandonment is 150 feet wide is slightly hilly ground entirely within the town of Huntsville, Texas.

Southern States Capital Corporation has expressed a desire to acquire the property for a public pedestrian and bicycling park. Otherwise, UP does not believe the property is suitable for other public purposes, including roads or highways, other forms of mass transportation, conservation, energy production or transmission, in that the area is adequately served by existing roads and utility lines. If the property were not used as a public trail, then the highest and best use of the right-of-way would be that of adjacent land usage.

Based on information in UP's possession, the Line proposed for abandonment does not contain federally granted right-of-way. There will be no effect on regional or local transportation systems and patterns and no diversion of traffic to other transportation systems or modes.

-Any documentation-so related-to-the Line, including-real estate documentation relating to the Line in UP's possession, will be made available to those requesting it.

### Labor Protection

The interests of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions discussed in <u>Oregon Short Line Railroad Co. -- Abandonment -- Goshen</u>, 360 ICC 91 (1979).

### **Certifications**

Attached hereto as Exhibit B and hereby made a part hereof is a Certificate of Service and Publication pursuant to the notice requirements of 49 C.F.R. §§ 1152.50(d)(1), 1105.11 and 1105.12.

### **Environmental and Historic Report**

A copy of the Transmittal Letter of UP's Combined Environmental and Historic Report containing the information required by 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 (e) and 1105.8, and delivered in accordance with 49 C.F.R. 1105.11, is attached hereto as **Exhibit C** and hereby made a part hereof. The original and ten (10) copies were sent to Ms. Victoria Rutson, Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), on September 28, 2007. The State Historic Preservation Officer was supplied with photos of the bridge structure that were fifty (50) years old or older at that time. In response, the State Historic Preservation Officer by stamped letter dated December 19, 2006, determined that no historic properties were affected by the proposed abandonment and that the project could proceed. A copy of this letter was included with the UP Combined Environmental and Historic Report filed on October 12, 2007.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

Máck H. Shumate, Jr. Senior General Attorney

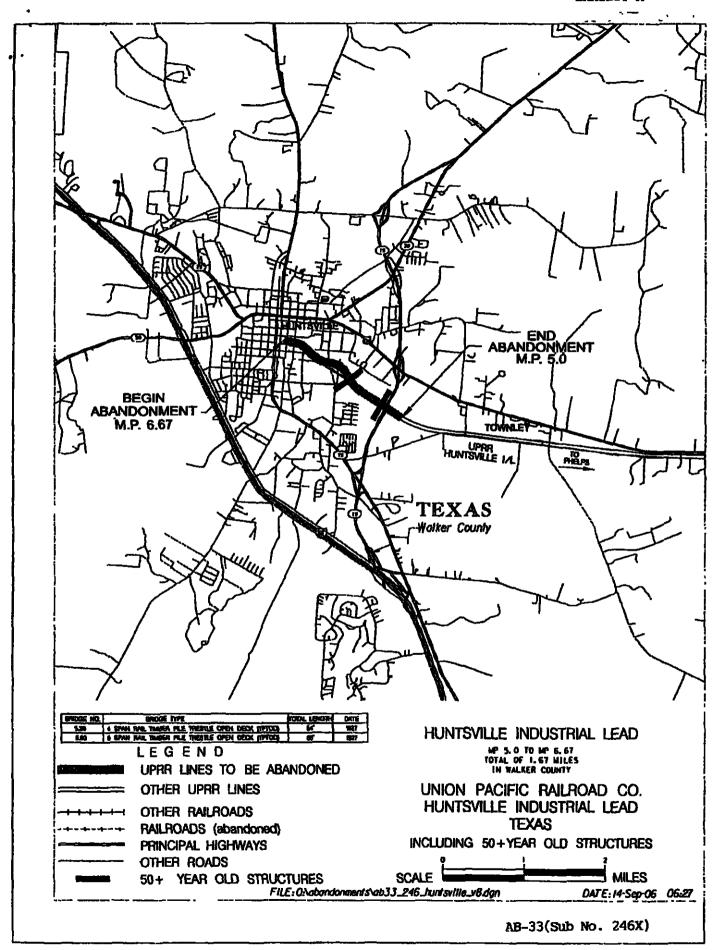
101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920

Chicago, Illinois 60606

(312) 777-2055

(312) 777-2065 FAX

and the course of the section of the course



AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X)

was on was a warming

## DOCKET NO. AB-33 (SUB-NO. 246X) HUNTSVILLE INDUSTRIAL LEAD IN WALKER COUNTY TEXAS

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND PUBLICATION**

### 49 C.F.R. § 1152.50(d)(1) - Notice

The undersigned certifies that on October 18, 2007 (at least 10 days before a Notice of Exemption is filed), written notice was given of Union Pacific's intent to use the exemption notice procedure to abandon the Huntsville Industrial Lead in Walker County, Texas in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X). Written notice (a copy of which is attached hereto as Attachment 1) was served on the following:

James L. Randall
Director – Transportation Planning
And Programming
125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Rallroad Commission of Texas PO Box 12967 Austin, TX 78711-2967

Jill A. Jordan, P.E. Assistant City Manager City of Dallas Office of the City Manager Dallas, TX 75201 U. S. National Park Service 12795 Alameda Parkway Denver, CO 80228

U. S. Department of Agriculture Chief of the Forest Service 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, NW, Auditors Bldg. 14<sup>th</sup> Street & Independence Ave. SW Washington, D.C. 20250

Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Engineering Agency Attn: Railroads for National Defense 720 Thimble Shoals, Blvd. 720 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 130 Newport News, VA 23606-2574

### 49 C.F.R. § 1105.11 - Transmittal Letter For Applicant's Report

The undersigned certifies that on September 28, 2007 (at least 20 days before a Notice of Exemption is filed), a Combined Environmental and Historic Report

pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §§ 1105.7 and 1105.8 was served in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X) for abandonment of the Huntsville Industrial Lead in Walker County, Texas on the following:

- (1) State Clearinghouse (or alternate)
- (2) State Environmental Protection Agency
- (3) State Coastal Zone Management Agency
- (4) Head of each County
- (5) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (regional office)
- (6) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- (7) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- (8) National Park Service
- (9) U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service
- (10) The National Geodetic Survey
- (11) State Historic Preservation Office
- (12) Other Agencies Consulted (as listed)

(The Certificate of Service attached to the Combined Environmental and Historic Report lists the names and addresses of the federal, state and local agencies served.)

### 49 C.F.R. § 1105.12 - Newspaper Notice

The undersigned further certifies that a "Notice of Intent to Abandon and/or to Discontinue Rail Service" was published in the form prescribed by the Board for a Notice of Exemption. The notice was published one time in a major newspaper in the county in which the Line is located as follows:

County Newspaper Date

Walker The Huntsville Item October 24, 2007

Dated this 26th day of November, 2007.

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

# **PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS, County of Walker

Rex Maynor, of the aforsald County and State, do solemnly swearthat I am
publisher of The Huntsville Ibem, a daily newspaper of general circulation
which has been continuously and regularly published at Huntsville, Walker
County, Texas, and is a legal newspaper and the attached notice was published
in said newspaper.

s previous nt:	2007	2007	2007	Publisher	2007
consecutive/subsquent dates previous to the return day therof to wit:					ğ
Consecutive to the retu	2007 On	2007 On	2007 On	fuet.	day of
	24-0¢			:	om to this 25th
Bozell	5	Ö	5		Subscribed and swom to this

My Commission Explos

Notary Public, Walker Cou

### CA Country

### DATE OF AND

PERTHILL DALLE STRONG TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PERTHIP STRONG TO THE

į

### 700 #S

### POSCONTINUE AND ASSAUDON

28, 20,00 n Indonés to tie (int il a Service).
Unreportation Bolton, Visionington vo. C. 2023. 3, Notice (Exemplo) in tier 49 sec. C. 2. A service (Exemplo) in tier 49 sec. C. 2. A service service (Exemplo) in tier 49 sec. C. 2. A service service

Fine Board's Secrept et Emminimental ser in minimental ser in mini

Askenderber odleret deutramsel eest in bet un ordnenger die eelt ber deut eel vertree deut vertree deut vertree deut vertree deut vertree deutschein deut vertree deutschein deut vertree deut deutschein deut vertree deutschein deutsche deutschein deutschein deutschein deutschein deutschein deutsch

17711





Mack H. Shumate, Jr. Semor General Attorney, Law Department

### October 18, 2007

### **VIA E-FILING**

James L. Randall
Director – Transportation Planning
And Programming
125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Railroad Commission of Texas PO Box 12967 Austin, TX 78711-2967 U. S. National Park Service 12795 Alameda Parkway Denver, CO 80228

U. S. Department of Agriculture Chief of the Forest Service 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, NW, Auditors Bldg. 14<sup>th</sup> Street & Independence Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20250

Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Engineering Agency Attn: Railroads for National Defense 720 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 130 Newport News, VA 23606-2574

Re: Proposed Abandonment of the Huntsville Industrial Lead from M. P. 5.0 to M. P. 6.67 near Huntsville, Walker County, Texas; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X)

Dear Madam or Sir:

This is notice that Union Pacific Railroad Company ("UP") expects to be filing with the Surface Transportation Board ("STB" or "Board") a Notice of Exemption seeking authority for an exempt abandonment from Milepost 5.0 to Milepost 6.67 near Huntsville, a distance of 1.67 miles in Walker County, Texas (the "Line"). The Line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 77340. The proceeding will be docketed as No. AB-33(Sub-No. 246X).

The "no business" exemption procedure will be used to abandon the Line, pursuant to the abandonment regulations of the STB at 49 C.F.R. Section 1152.50. No local traffic has moved over the Line in at least two years and thee is no overhead traffic on the Line. A Notice of Exemption will be filed with the STB on or after October 29, 2007.

### October 18, 2007

Based on information in our possession, the Line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in the UP's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

A map showing the Line to be abandoned is attached, for your information.

Sincerely,

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

**Attachment** 

O:\Abandonments\Ab33-(Sub-No.246X)\NOI-Letter

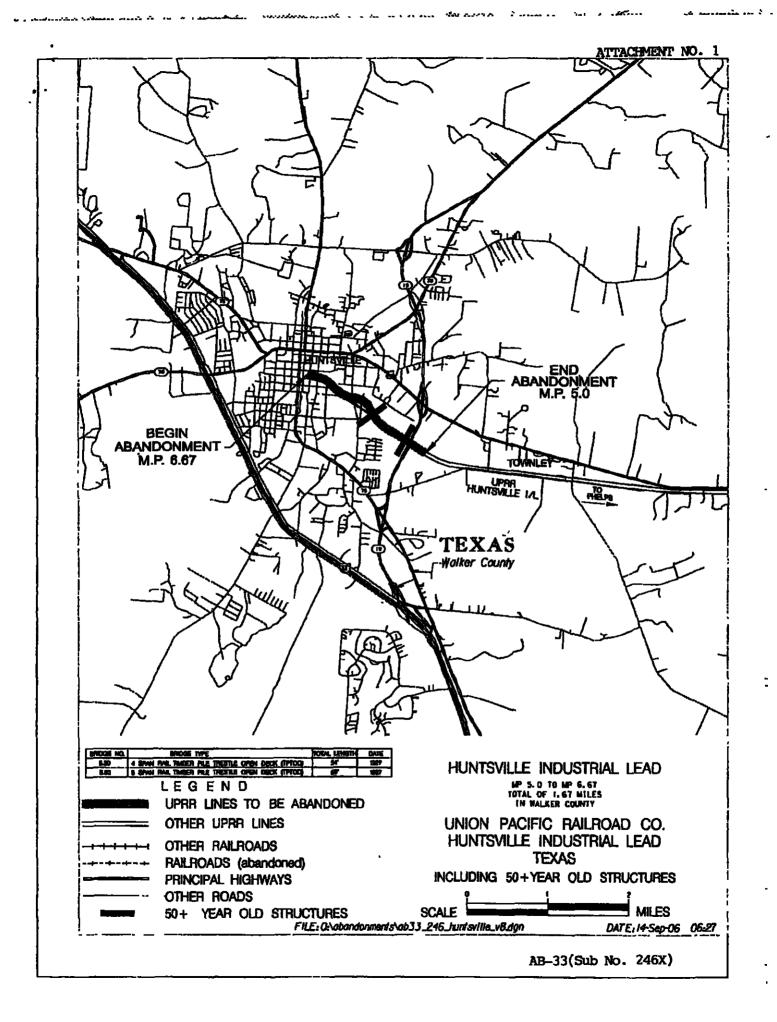
### NOTICE OF INTENT TO DISCONTINUE AND ABANDON

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY ("UP") gives notice that on or after October 29, 2007 it intends to file with the Surface Transportation Board, Washington, D.C. 20423, a Notice of Exemption under 49 C.F.R. Part 1152, Subpart F-Exempt Abandonments and Discontinuances, for an exempt abandonment and discontinuance of service over the Huntsville Industrial Lead from Milepost 5.0 to Milepost 6.67 near Huntsville, a distance of 1.67 miles in Walker County, Texas (the "Line"). The Line traverses U. S. Postal Service Zip Code 77340. The proceeding has been docketed as No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X).

The Board's Section of Environmental Analysis ("SEA") will generally prepare an Environmental Assessment ("EA"), which will normally be available 25 days after the filing of the Notice of Exemption. Comments on environmental and energy matters should be filed no later than 15 days after the EA becomes available to the public and will be addressed in a Board decision. Interested persons may obtain a copy of the EA or make inquiries regarding environmental matters by writing to the Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA), Surface Transportation Board, Washington, DC 20423 or by calling that office at (202) 245-0295.

Appropriate offers of financial assistance to continue rail service can be filed with the Board. Requests for environmental conditions, public use conditions, or rail banking/trails use also can be filed with the Board. An original and 10 copies of any pleading that raises matters other than environmental issues (such as trails use, public use, and offers of financial assistance) must be filed directly with the Board's Office of the Secretary, 395 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20423 [See 49 CFR 1104:1(a) and 1104.3(a)], and one copy must be served on the applicant's representative [See 49 CFR 1104.12(a)]. Questions regarding offers of financial assistance, public use or trails use may be directed to the Board's Office of Congressional and Public Services at (866) 254-1792. Copies of any comments or requests for conditions should be served on the applicant's representative: Mack H. Shumate, Jr., Senior General Attorney, 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY



# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE OF APPLICATION FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Intent in Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No. 246X), over the Huntsville Industrial Lead extending from Milepost 5.0 to Milepost 6.67 near Huntsville, a distance of 1.,67 miles in Walker County, Texas, was served by first class mail (or by Certified Mail, if indicated) on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

James L. Randall
Director – Transportation Planning
And Programming
125 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street
Austin, TX 78701-2483

Railroad Commission of Texas PO Box 12967 Austin, TX 78711-2967 U. S. National Park Service 12795 Alameda Parkway Denver, CO 80228

U. S. Department of Agriculture Chief of the Forest Service 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, NW, Auditors Bldg. 14<sup>th</sup> Street & Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC 20250

Military Traffic Management Command Transportation Engineering Agency Attn: Railroads for National Defense 720 Thimble Shoals Blvd., Suite 130 Newport News, VA 23606-2574

Dated this 18th day of October, 2007.

Mack H. Shumate, Jr.

Union Pacific Rallroad Company 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920

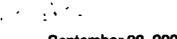
Chicago, IL 60606 312/777-2055 312/777-2065(Fax)

O:\Abandonments(AB33-246X)\COS



Mack H. Shumate, Jr. Sensor General Attorney, Law Department

Texas Historical Commission



September 28, 2007

### **VIA UPS OVERNIGHT**

Surface Transportation Board Section of Environmental Analysis 1925 "K" Street, N.W. Room 504 Washington, DC 20423-0001

Attention: Victoria Rutson

Proposed Abandonment of the Huntsville Industrial Lead from M. P. 5.0 to M. P. Re:

6.67 near Huntsville, Walker County, Texas; STB Docket No. AB-33 (Sub-No.

246X)

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and ten (10) copies of a Combined Environmental and Historic Report prepared pursuant to 49 C.F.R, §1105.7 and §1105.8, with a Certificate of Service, and a transmittal letter pursuant to 49 C.F.R. §1105.11.

Union Pacific anticipates filing an Notice of Exemption in this matter on or after October 22, 2007.

Sincerely yours

AY PROCEED

for F. Lawerence Oaks

State Historic Preservation Officer

**Enclosures** 

O:\ABANDOMENTS\33-246X\EHRLsttar.doc